

MESSAGE FROM CHAIR

All of us have been overwhelmed by the catastrophic loss of life and damage wrought by Hurricane Katrina in the Gulf Coast region. Our Section, through its dedicated members and staff, stands ready to assist those affected by Hurricane Katrina. One tangible means of providing assistance is to submit for posting on our Section website any articles, checklists, or other information that would be helpful to either victims or lawyers assisting victims. The address for our disaster relief webpage is http://www.abanet.org/rppt/section_info/hurricane.html. Please provide this information in an electronic format to the following “information filters”:

For the Real Property Division: Richard Frome at rmf@rmfromelaw.com. Richard, a Section member and real estate practitioner in New York City, is responsible for helping us sort and organize submitted materials relating to real property.

For the Probate and Trust Division: Steve Akers at AKERS@bessemer.com. Steve, the Probate and Trust Division Vice Chair from Dallas, is responsible for helping us sort and organize submitted materials relating to the probate and trust fields.

If the materials are subject to copyright, please secure permission to publish. State and local bar associations have been wonderful in granting permission to publish their materials on the Section website, but please check with these organizations on their policies.

For those willing to offer office space for those lawyers displaced by Hurricane Katrina, the ABA website has an on-line registration under the heading “I have Office Space to Donate.” For those willing to provide pro bona legal services to victims, the ABA website has an on-line registration under the heading “I would like to Volunteer.” The link to the ABA website for these registrations is <http://www.abanet.org/katrina/volunteers.html>.

ABA President Michael Greco has appointed a task force to address and respond to the multitude of legal issues arising out of this natural disaster. President Greco has appointed Nancy Appleby, a Section Council member based in Washington, D.C., to serve on this task force. Nancy will keep us advised on the efforts being undertaken by the ABA as a whole and, if opportunities exist for our involvement, we will bring them to your attention.

Thank you for any information contribution you can make to our Section website. Through your efforts, we can create a valuable resource for those whose lives have been devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

Kevin L. Shepherd
Chair